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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/056,378	01/24/2002	Christian L. Critz	16356.667 (DC-03294)	3862

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EXAMINER

GELIN, JEAN ALLAND

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2681

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/056,378	CRITZ ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jean A Gelin	2681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5, 6, 8-14, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 7, 15 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1/24/02</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 6, 8-14, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Watts Jr et al (US 6,295,197).

Regarding claims 1, 12, Watts Jr. teaches an information handling system comprising: a processor (within computer 16); a memory coupled to the processor (within computer 16); a connector for receiving an optional wireless card (connector 26 in col. 4, lines 25-27); a fixed network controller situated in the system (physically connected via RJ11 or RJ45, col. 4, lines 10-20); first and second indicators situated in the system and shared between the wireless card and the fixed network controller (col. 5, lines 14-25, col. 6, lines 53-65).

Regarding claim 6, Watts Jr. teaches wherein the first and second indicators are integrated in a wire LAN connector (col. 4, lines 4-20).

Regarding claim 8, Watts Jr. teaches a motherboard to which the fixed network controller is permanently attached (col. 6, line 13 to col. 7, line 27).

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Regarding claim 9, Watts Jr. teaches a motherboard to which the connector for the optional wireless card is attached, the wireless card being pluggably attachable to the connector for the optional wireless card (col. 4, lines 20-37).

Regarding claims 10, 19, Watts Jr. teaches wherein the connector is a mini-PCI connector (col. 4, lines 20-37).

Regarding claims 11, 20, Watts Jr. teaches wherein the wireless card is a mini-PCI wireless card (col. 4, lines 20-37).

Regarding claim 13, Watts Jr. teaches wherein the wireless device is removable from the system (i.e., RF module PC4800A, col. 4, lines 38-45).

Regarding claim 14, Watts Jr. teaches wherein the first and second indicators are situated in a wire LAN connector (col. 4, lines 20-37).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, 5, 16, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watts Jr. et al. (US 6,256,318) in view of O'Callaghan et al. (US 6,256,318).

Regarding claims 2, 16, Watts Jr. teaches all the limitations above except the first and second indicators such that the first indicator indicates network activity.

However, the preceding limitation is known in the art of communications. O'Callaghan teaches activity in computer network is indicated by activation of a visual indication device (col. 4, lines 5-25). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to implement the technique of O'Callaghan within the system of Watts Jr. in order to determine the status of the network wherein whenever activity is detected the green/yellow indicator is activated to be green.

Regarding claims 3, 17, Watts Jr. in view of O'Callaghan teaches all the limitations above. O'Callaghan further teaches wherein the status processing logic circuit coupled to the second indicator enables the second indicator to indicate a good wireless network connection or a good fixed network controller connection (col. 4, lines 5-67).

Regarding claim 5, Watts Jr. in view of O'Callaghan teaches all the limitations above. Watts Jr. further teaches overriding the wireless connection when the fixed network controller is connected to a wire LAN thus providing access of the fixed network controller to the first and second indicators instead of the wireless device (i.e., inhibiting operation of the wireless connection, col. 6, lines 35-44).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 4, 7, 15, and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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4. The information handling system of claim 2 wherein the second indicator includes first and second sub-indicators for indicating different link rates, respectively, and the status processing logic circuit drives the first indicator to indicate a first link rate when the system is operating at a first link rate and drives the second indicator to indicate a second link rate when the system is operating at a second link rate.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Moran et al.	US 6,757,543 B2	06/29/2004
Itoh et al.	US 2002/0072391 A	06/13/2002
Ikegami	US 5,828,663 A	10/27/1998
Pope Jr. et al.	US 6,654,616 B1	11/25/2003

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean A Gelin whose telephone number is (703) 305-4847. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

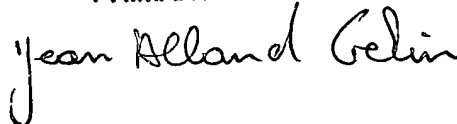
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JGelin
April 14, 2005

JEAN GELIN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean Allard Gelin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name and title.